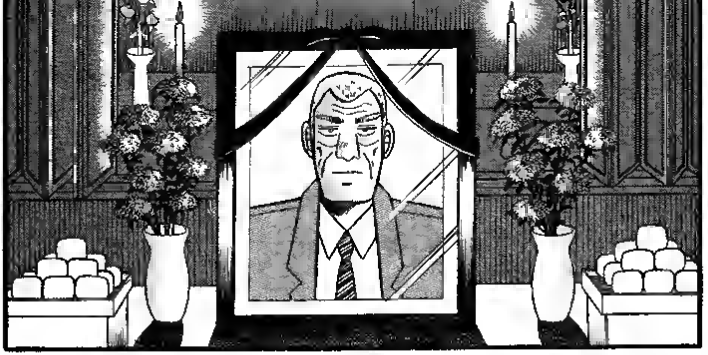
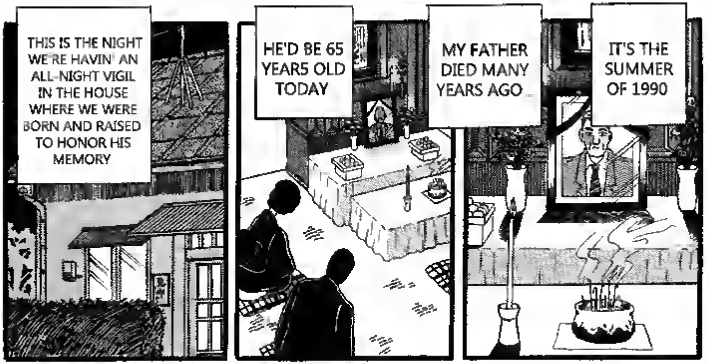
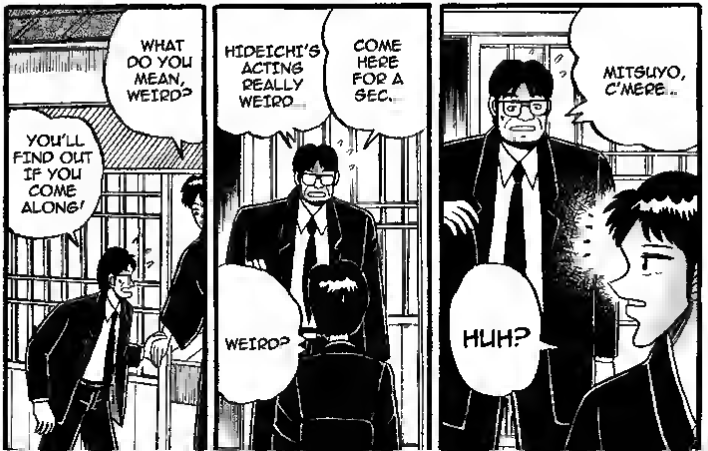
FUKUMOTO NOBUYUKI COLLECTION -
福本伸行作品集

星降る夜に

THE NIGHT THE STARS FALL

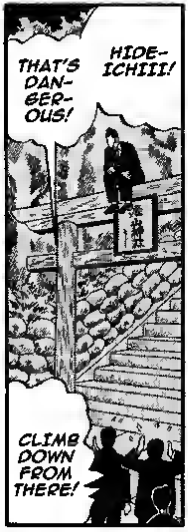



IT'S THE SUMMER OF 1990
MY FATHER DIED MANY YEARS AGO...
HE'D BE 65 YEARS OLD TODAY
THIS IS THE NIGHT WE'RE HAVIN' AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL IN THE HOUSE WHERE WE WERE BORN AND RAISED TO HONOR HIS MEMORY


MITSUYO, C'MERE...
HUH?
COME HERE FOR A SEC.
HIDEICHI'S ACTING REALLY WEIRD...
WEIRD?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WEIRD?
YOU'LL FIND OUT IF YOU COME ALONG!

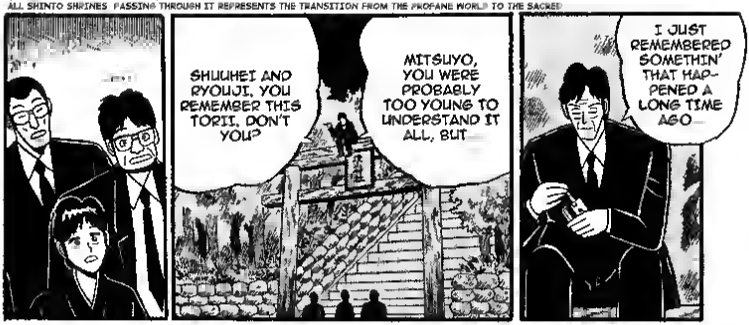
HIME-
YAMA
SHRINE
姫山神社

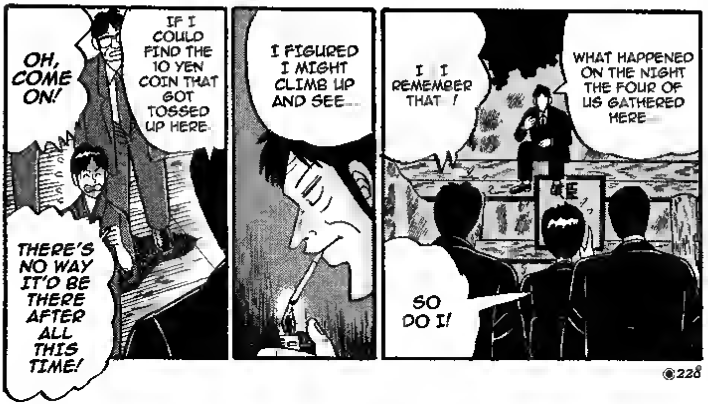
ARE YOU MAD ABOUT SOME-THIIIING?
WHAT'S UP...?


THAT'S DAN-GER-OUS!
HIDE-ICHIII!
CLIMB DOWN FROM THERE!

WHAT'S WRONG, HIDEICHI ?
WELL ..?
CAN YOU HEAR US FROM UP THERE?

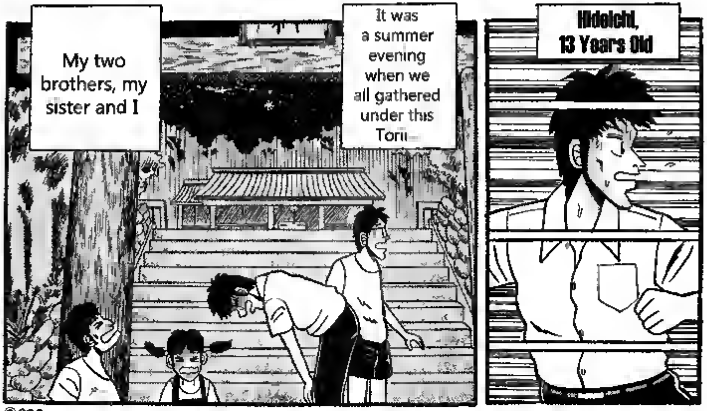
(T/N: A TORII (LIT. BIRD PERCH) IS A GATE FOUND AT THE ENTRANCE TO ALL SHINTO SHRINES. PASSING THROUGH IT REPRESENTS THE TRANSITION FROM THE PROFANE WORLD TO THE SACRED.)


SHUUHEI AND RYOUJI, YOU REMEMBER THIS TORII, DON'T YOU?
MITSUYO, YOU WERE PROBABLY TOO YOUNG TO UNDERSTAND IT ALL, BUT...
I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHIN' THAT HAP-PENED A LONG TIME AGO...


OH, COME ON!
IF I COULD FIND THE 10 YEN COIN THAT GOT TOSSED UP HERE...
THERE'S NO WAY IT'D BE THERE AFTER ALL THIS TIME!
I FIGURED I MIGHT CLIMB UP AND SEE...
I... I REMEMBER THAT!
WHAT HAPPENED ON THE NIGHT THE FOUR OF US GATHERED HERE...
SO DO I!

I THINK HE MIGHT BE LOSING IT, AFTER ALL...
YOU KNOW...
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING...?
Shuuhei, 33 Years Old
Mitsuyo, 29 Years Old
Ryouji, 35 Years Old

A time when all of us were still little kids
It was 25 years ago...
Shuuhei, 8 Years Old
Mitsuyo, 4 Years Old
Ryouji, 10 Years Old

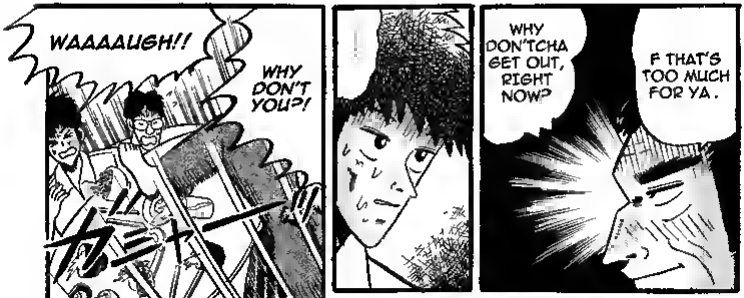

My two brothers, my sister and I
It was a summer evening when we all gathered under this Torii...
Hideichi, 13 Years Old

MITSUYO AND I WERE BOTH BAREFOOT
HAD GOTTEN REALLY ANGRY AGAIN.
IT WAS THAT DAY THAT DAD...
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE...
HIDE-ICHI, WHY...?
HE WAS ABLE TO HOLD ONTO HIS JOB, BUT...
BUT BY THIS POINT, OUR OLD MAN HAD BECOME COMPLETELY HOPELESS
WE LOST OUR MOM A LONG TIME AGO, SO HE TRIED HIS BEST TO TAKE CARE OF US HIMSELF...
THAT WAS REALLY ALL HE COULD MANAGE
HE WOULD TRY AND DRINK JUST A LITTLE, BUT WOULD END UP GIVIN' IN TO MORE AND MORE
EVERY NIGHT, HE'D DROWN HIMSELF IN ALL THE SAKE HE COULD STAND
HE HAD TOTALLY LOST ALL HIS MOTIVATION
HE WAS AROUND 40 YEARS OLD, BUT...
福寿
FUKUJYU

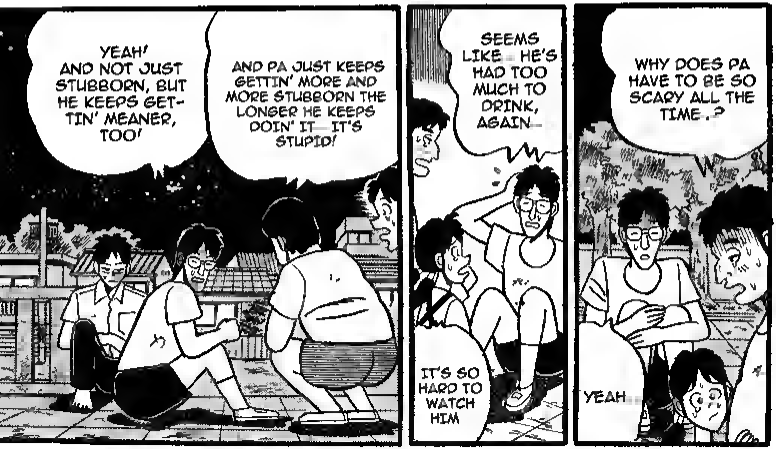
WAIT A MINUTE.
SHHH!!
NOOO!
MITSUYO! IT'S YOUR TURN, TODAY!
THAT DAY WAS NO DIFFERENT
NO..
WHAT WAS THAT? WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A "TURN"?
TO DECIDE WHO WOULD SIT NEXT TO OUR FATHER AT DINNER THAT NIGHT.
WE ALL TOOK TURNS
AH..?
"MY PA'S SUCH A HORRIBLE GUY," DIDN'TCHA?
I'LL BET YOU JUST THOUGHT TO YER-SELF
HIDE-ICHI.
BACK THEN WE ALL TRIED TO AVOID DAD AS BEST WE COULD

"HE'S SO COLD-HEARTED," AM I RIGHT?

BUT YOU'RE THE FIRST-BORN SON'A THE HOUSEHOLD THAT MEANS YOU GOTTA GET ALONG WITH ME!
WELL, I HATE T' SAY IT
YA HATE ME THAT MUCH, DO YA?

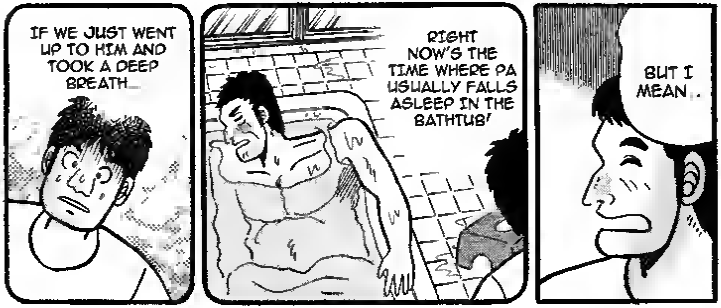

WAAAAUGH!!
WHY DON'T YOU?!
WHY DON'TCHA GET OUT, RIGHT NOW?
F THAT'S TOO MUCH FOR YA.

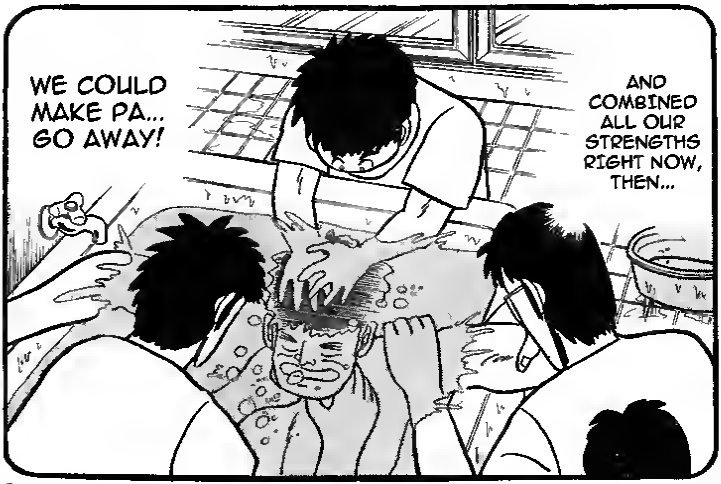
神社
HAHH-HHH...
.....


WHY DOES PA HAVE TO BE SO SCARY ALL THE TIME..?
YEAH...
SEEMS LIKE HE'S HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK, AGAIN—
IT'S SO HARD TO WATCH HIM
AND PA JUST KEEPS GETTIN' MORE AND MORE STUBBORN THE LONGER HE KEEPS DOIN' IT— IT'S STUPID!
YEAH! AND NOT JUST STUBBORN, BUT HE KEEPS GETTIN' MEANER, TOO!

EVEN STILL, PA'S BEEN SLEEPIN' REALLY BAD LATELY... AND WHEN HE WAKES UP, HE'S EVEN WORSE THAN BEFORE HE WENT TO SLEEP...
YEAH...
WE'D BE BETTER OFF IF PA NEVER WOKE UP AGAIN!!
I KEEP HOPIN' AND PRAYIN' THAT ONE'A THESE DAYS, GOD'S GONNA SEE PA DRUNK AFTER SPENDING A NIGHT GULPIN' DOWN SAKE, AND HE'LL MAKE HIM FALL ASLEEP AND NEVER WAKE UP, EVER AGAIN!
ME TOO.
WE'LL PULL THROUGH SOME-HOW...
HE'S SO SCARY, THOUGH
JUST BEIN' AROUND PA SOME-TIMES...
IS ENOUGH TO MAKE ME WANNA HIT HIM GOOD!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT.
THIS IS ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR CRAZY IDEAS AGAIN, RIGHT...?
HIDE-ICHI ...?!
WE'VE GOTTA KILL HIM...

BUT.. BUT PA'S WAY STRONGER THAN US, Y'KNOW!
IT'S NOT LIKE WE COULDN'T DO IT IF WE WANTED TO.
BUT, WELL..

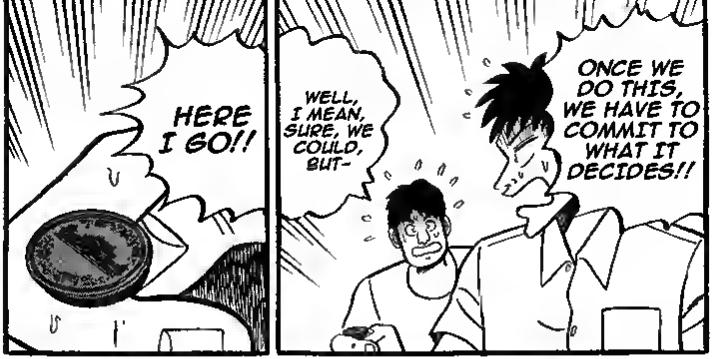

IF WE JUST WENT UP TO HIM AND TOOK A DEEP BREATH...
RIGHT NOW'S THE TIME WHERE PA USUALLY FALLS ASLEEP IN THE BATHTUB!
BUT I MEAN..


WE COULD MAKE PA... GO AWAY!
AND COMBINED ALL OUR STRENGTHS RIGHT NOW, THEN...

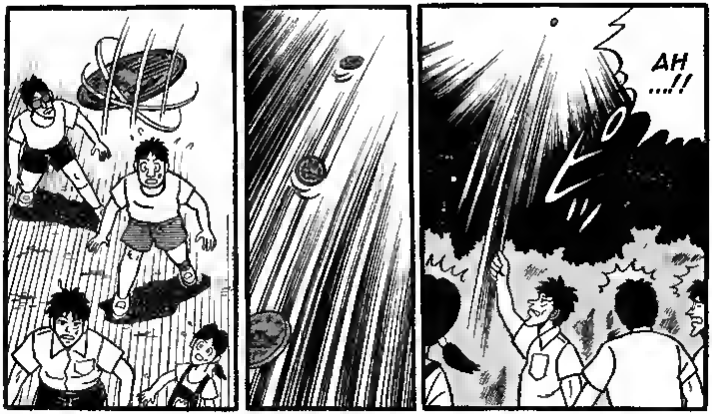
I MEAN, FIRST OF ALL, WHAT WOULD WE DO WITH HIM AFTERWARDS?
HOW WOULD YOU EVER EXPLAIN IT TO THE POLICE, RYOUJI?
YOU'RE AWFUL, RYOUJI!!
THAT'S HORRIBLE!
I WAS JUST THINKIN' ABOUT IT, NO HARM IN THAT
IF WE'RE GONNA DO IT, WE SHOULD AT LEAST CATCH HIM WHILE HE'S SLEEPING NORMALLY...
AND COMBINE OUR STRENGTHS THAT WAY TO TAKE PA'S HEAD AND...
IF WE DID THAT, WE COULD SAY PA JUST SLIPPED AND FELL BY ACCIDENT!
HEY, WHO'S THE HORRIBLE ONE, HERE?
YOU'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS WAY MORE THAN I HAVE..
WE'RE NOT ACTUALLY GONNA DO IT, Y'KNOW

N...
NO, OF COURSE WE'RE NOT..!
I WAS JUST... THINKING ABOUT IT A LITTLE...
BESIDES, IF WE APPROACH IT THAT SIMPLY, IT'D LEAVE LOTS OF EVIDENCE...
THE POLICE AREN'T THAT EASY TO FOOL...
WELL, THEN, HOW ABOUT THIS, HUH?
ONCE PA'S ASLEEP AFTER DRINKIN' ALL THAT SAKE...
WE FILL THE BATHTUB UP WITH WATER THAT'S HOT ENOUGH TO MAKE HIS HEART STOP ON ITS OWN!
WHY IS HE STILL PUTTIN' THIS MUCH THOUGHT INTO IT...
ARE WE REALLY GONNA CHICKEN OUT AND NOT GO THROUGH WITH IT?
HIDE-ICHI...?
ARE YOU OKAY...?
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT THIS...

WELL ABOUT HALF PREPARED
I'M PREPARED TO DO IT
WE WERE JUST MESSIN' AROUND
THERE'S NO NEED TO GET WORKED UP ABOUT THIS
IF IT'S HEADS, WE'LL GO THROUGH WITH IT!
AND IF IT'S TAILS, WE'LL ENDURE IT FOR AS LONG AS WE HAVE TO!
I'M GONNA FLIP THIS COIN...
SO LET'S DECIDE IT WITH THIS!
I'LL GO AND DO WHAT I SAID I WILL...
NO MATTER HOW NERVOUS I AM!
BUT OTHERWISE... IF IT'S HEADS, THEN...
HIDEICHI...
NO MATTER HOW BAD OUR PA GETS, WE'LL STICK WITH HIM!!


HERE I GO!!
WELL, I MEAN, SURE, WE COULD, BUT-
ONCE WE DO THIS, WE HAVE TO COMMIT TO WHAT IT DECIDES!!

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, HIDE-ICHI!!
WE'RE NOT GONNA BE PART OF THIS!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HERE I GO"?!


AH ...!!

[SFX] CLINK
カチャ
姫山

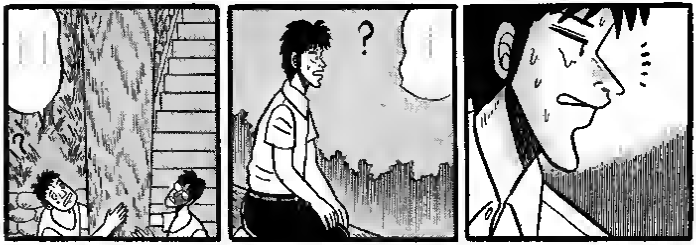
WHEW...
YEAH...
IS IT STUCK UP THERE...?
IT'S STUCK.

YEAH, RIGHT...
I KNEW IT THIS IS GOD'S WAY OF TELLING US THAT WHAT WE'RE TALKIN' ABOUT IS JUST SILLY...

HIDE-ICHI?!
YOU SEE, HI-

I WASN'T FOOLIN' AROUND!!
JUST... JUST SHUT UP!!
PUTTIN' UP WITH THAT AWFUL MAN AS LONG AS WE NEED TO!
IF IT'S TAILS, WE'LL KEEP WITH IT UNTIL HIGH SCHOOL...
IF IT'S HEADS ...!!
BUT IF IT'S HEADS, THEN...
THAT'S WAY TOO DAN-GER-OUS!!
WHOA, WHOA, HOLD ON!!
SHAD-DUP!!
I'M A MAN!!
DON'T MAKE A JOKE OF THIS!!

I DON'T GO BACK ON MY-...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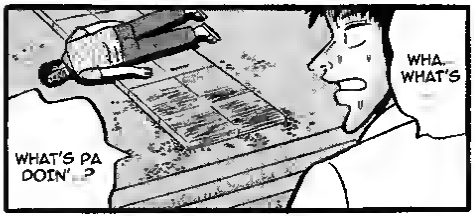
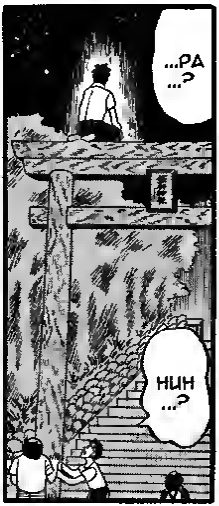
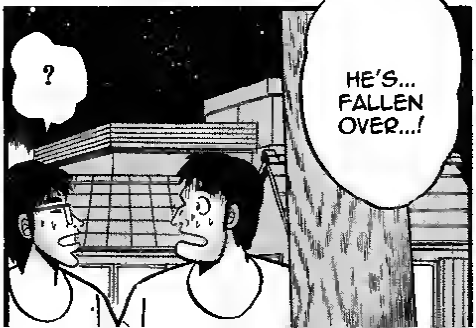
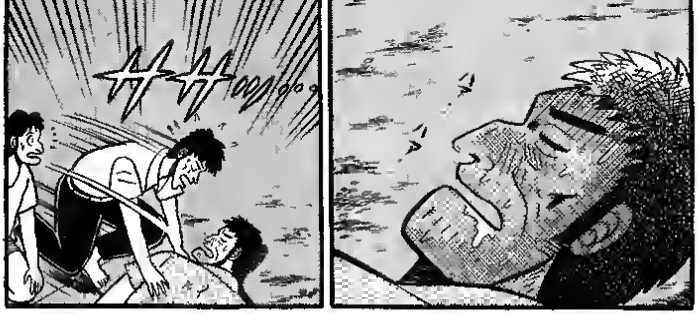
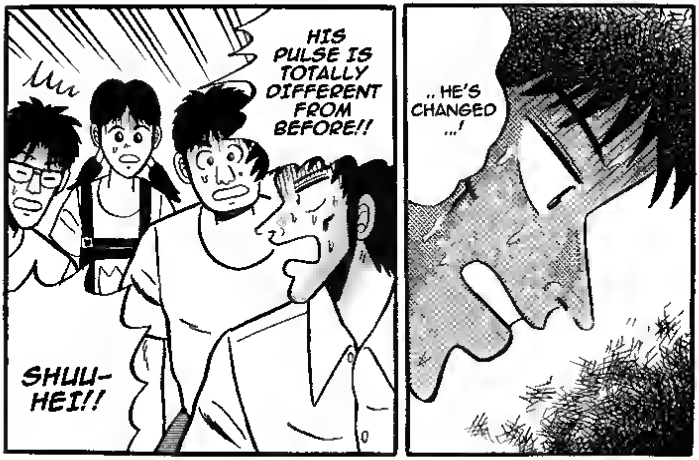

WHA... WHAT'S
WHAT'S PA DOIN'...?


...PA ...?
HUH ...?


?
HE'S... FALLEN OVER...!

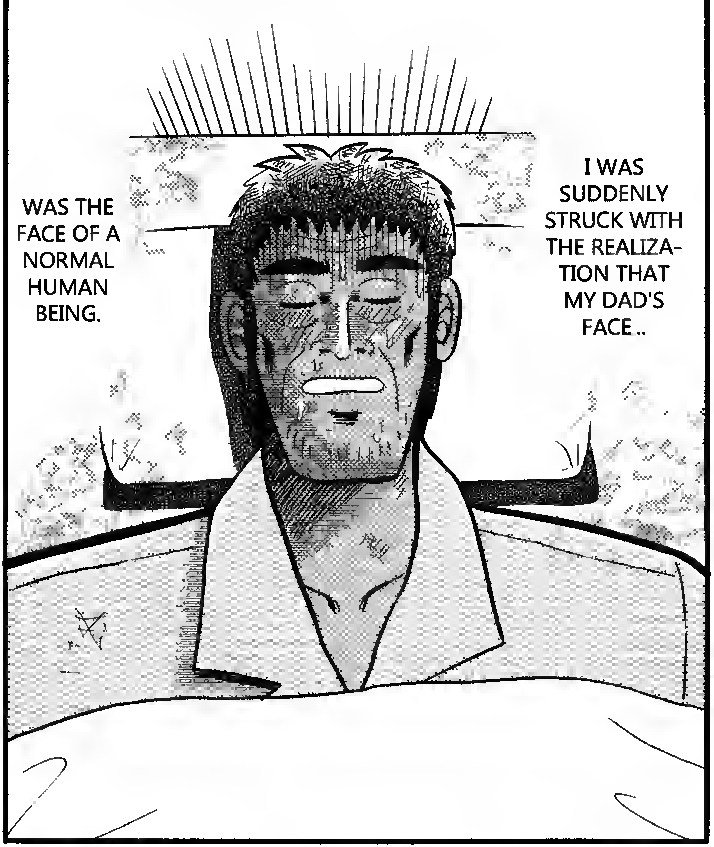
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?!
WHAT'S HE DOIN' HERE?!
BUT THEN, WHY WOULD HE BE ALL THE WAY OUT HERE ...?
DID HE DRINK MORE THAN HE COULD STAND ...?
PA ...?!
DID HE COME TO APOLOGIZE ...?
I DUNNO

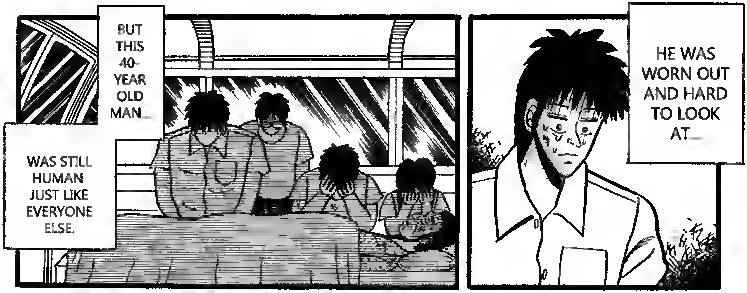


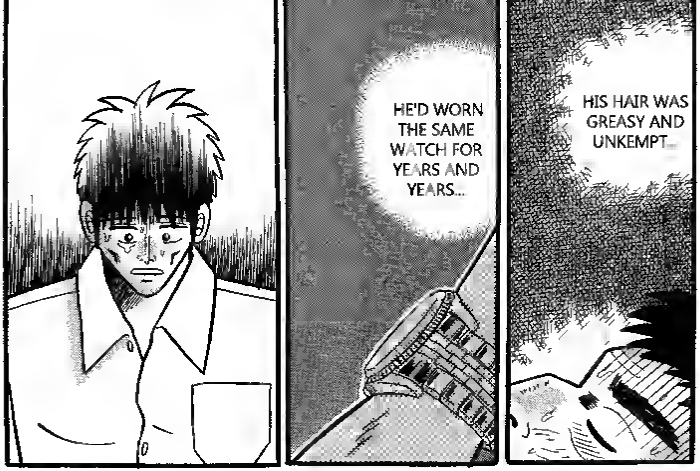

HIS PULSE IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE!!
SHUU-HEI!!
.. HE'S CHANGED ...!

CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!
QUICK-LY!!
姫山神社

RIGHT THEN...
OIO,..OIO ALL THOSE STUPID THINGS WE WERE SAYIN' DO THIS..?
DADDY ...!
"SNIFF"..
I KNOW THIS IS GONNA SOUND STRANGE, BUT...
AND SEEN MY DAD'S 40 YEAR-OLD FACE
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I'D REALLY LOOKED PAST HIS HARSH WORDS AND VIOLENT ACTIONS...
I TOOK A GOOD LONG LOOK AT MY DAD'S FACE AND SAW SOMETHIN I'D NEVER NOTICED BEFORE
INSIDE THE AMBULANCE THAT WAS TAKIN' OUR DAD TO THE HOSPITAL...

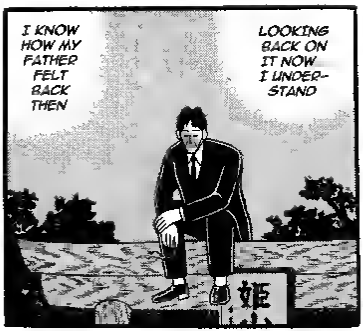

WAS THE FACE OF A NORMAL HUMAN BEING.
I WAS SUDDENLY STRUCK WITH THE REALIZATION THAT MY DAD'S FACE..


BUT THIS 40-YEAR OLD MAN...
WAS STILL HUMAN JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.
HE WAS WORN OUT AND HARD TO LOOK AT...


HE'D WORN THE SAME WATCH FOR YEARS AND YEARS...
HIS HAIR WAS GREASY AND UNKEMPT...

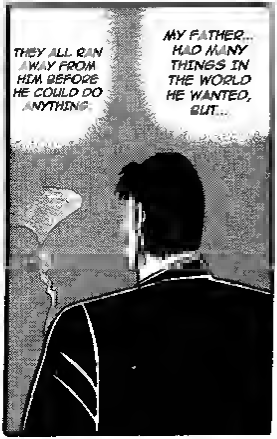
FELT ROUGH AND WORN...
AND MY FATHER'S HANDS...

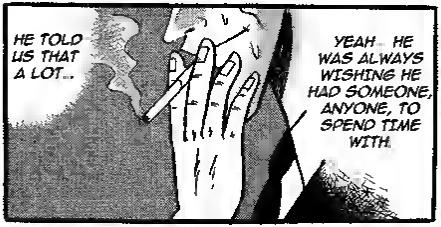
.....


I KNOW HOW MY FATHER FELT BACK THEN
LOOKING BACK ON IT NOW... I UNDER-STAND

THAT DAY, IN THE END, MY OLD MAN NEVER WOKE UP AGAIN... HE DIED WITHOUT ACCOMPLISHIN' ANYTHING, BUT...

BUT AT THE SAME TIME, HE LONGED FOR SOMEONE'S COMPANY
HE WAS A 40-YEAR-OLD WHO HAD LOST HIS WIFE...


THEY ALL RAN AWAY FROM HIM BEFORE HE COULD DO ANYTHING...
MY FATHER... HAD MANY THINGS IN THE WORLD HE WANTED, BUT...


HE TOLD US THAT A LOT...
YEAH... HE WAS ALWAYS WISHING HE HAD SOMEONE, ANYONE, TO SPEND TIME WITH.

WHEN HE DRANK SAKE, HE COULD FORGET ALL ABOUT HIS TROUBLES AND DRINK THE PAIN AWAY
I THINK THAT'S WHY HE DRANK
EVERY NIGHT, HE WOULD LOSE HIMSELF IN HIS SAKE
FOR AN UGLY, PENNILESS OLD MAN LIKE MY DAD, THERE WASN'T A GIRL IN THE WORLD THAT WOULD GET WITH HIM
BUT BECAUSE HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY MONEY, THERE WASN'T ANYTHING HE COULD DO
HE ALWAYS SAID IT COULDN'T BE HELPED
BUT HE COULDN'T DO IT HE COULDN'T GIVE UP ON LIFE
IT WAS AT A POINT WHERE HE REALLY WANTED TO DIE
HE GAVE UP HIS DREAMS TO EASE HIS DISPAIR EVEN A LITTLE BIT
HE'D GIVEN UP ON IT ALL
BUT IT SEEMED LIKE EVERY NIGHT, HE WAS KILLING HIMSELF, LITTLE BY LITTLE
ALL BECAUSE WE WERE THERE

ALL BECAUSE WE WERE A BEACON OF LIGHT IN HIS LIFE!
I DON'T KNOW WHY I NEVER WORKED OUT THE MEANING OF WHAT HE WAS SAYING TO US BACK THEN...
OR WHY I COULD NEVER REALIZE HOW MUCH HE CARED
EVEN THOUGH WE NEVER REALLY SHARED TIME TOGETHER AS A FATHER AND SON
I STILL SHOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED WHY HE SAID THE THINGS HE DID...!
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN OBVI-OUS!

PA... I'M SORRY...
.....

PRESENTED BY FKMTKRAZY

TRANSLATED BY SONICKRAZY
CLEANED BY CRUMP BIGGUMS
TYPESETTING BY KAZUHIKO

THIS RELEASE IS DETEICATED TO MY DEAR FRIEND DAKOTA FRANCIS
WHO LOST HIS BATTLE WITH CANCER, YOU WERE THE FRIST FRIEND I EVER LOST,
YOU HAD DREAMS AND AMBITIONS THAT WERE BIGGER THEN I COULD HAVE EVER
IMAGINED I NEVER BEEN GOOD WITH WORDS BUT TIMES LIKE THIS I NEED TO FIND
THOSE WORDS I WILL FOREVER MISS YOU MY FRIEND YOU TOUCHED ALOT OF PEOPLES
LIFES ESSPEICALLY MINE EVEN THROUGH HARD TIMES YOU KEEPED ON FIGHTING EVEN
WHEN OTHERS LOST ALL HOPE I FELT IF I WAS WERE YOU WHERE I COULD NEVER BE
THAT STRONG AND HOLD ON TO HOPE FOR THAT LONG LIFE MY BE SHORT BUT YOU
LIVED A GOOD ONE AND THATS SOMETHING THAT NOT EVERYONE CAN SAY YOU MAY
BE GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTEN, YOU ARE THE LONE WOLF WHO LEFT THE PACK TO GO
ONTO GREATER THINGS, YOUR COURAGE TO FACE THE HEAVENS IS TO BE ADMIRED
I WON'T FORGET OUR TIME SPENT YOUR FRIEND KAZUHIKO (DAVID)